

course we can pause and remember these heroes, their travels, and sacrifices—from the journey's beginning when Rochambeau led the French army out of Newport and Providence, RI, into New York where he joined Washington's troops, and through a cross section of colonial America to its culmination at Yorktown.

Each of the nine States on the trail makes its own unique contribution to the tale of the journey. In my own State of Connecticut—the two generals met and through a translator planned their strategy. In Phillipsburg, NY, the French and American armies first joined together and faced off against the British in New York City. Here, Washington and Rochambeau planned their high risk strategy—abandoning established positions in the north and racing hundreds of miles south to surprise and trap an unsuspecting British army. In Chatham, New Jersey, the French made a show of storing supplies and building bread ovens in order to disguise their march towards Cornwallis in Virginia. They moved on through Princeton and Trenton, New Jersey—sites of previous colonial victories against great odds.

The trail goes through Philadelphia, PA—then capital of the colonies. Here Washington and Rochambeau stopped their men outside town, had them clean off the dirt of the trail and marched them through town with drums beating and flags unfurled before the Continental Congress and the people of Philadelphia. The grandeur of their new European ally helped restore the spirit of America during this very uncertain time.

A few days later in Chester, PA, Washington, the normally reserved commander-in-chief, literally danced on the dock when he learned the French fleet had arrived in the Chesapeake and trapped the British at Yorktown. For the first time, it seemed that victory for the colonies was possible. The armies marched on to Wilmington, DE and Elkton, MD, where American troops were finally paid for some of their efforts, using money borrowed by the bankrupt Continental Army from General Rochambeau.

Our Nation's capital region also played its part in this story. Troops camped in Baltimore near the site of today's Camden Yards. Some crossed the Potomac near Georgetown, while others camped in Alexandria, VA. Along the way, General Washington made a triumphal return to Mount Vernon, and hosted a celebration for his French allies. All along the route, towns were touched and thrilled by the passage of the army and events swirling around them.

The armies marched on through Williamsburg, VA until they reached positions outside Yorktown in late September. Washington and Rochambeau and their troops went on to win this battle and the war. Let us take the time to better remember the heroes of our past, those who sacrificed so much

for our freedom today, deserve no less. This bill ensures that this history, in all its rich detail, is not forgotten.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to join the Senator from Connecticut, Mr. JOE LIEBERMAN, in introducing legislation to designate the historic route undertaken by General George Washington and General Jean-Baptiste de Rochambeau to trap the British army at Yorktown, VA, as a national historic trail.

This proposed national historic trail traces the 600-mile route that French troops under the command of General Jean-Baptiste de Rochambeau took from Newport, RI, to Yorktown, VA, during the Revolutionary War. American troops under the command of General George Washington joined the French force outside of New York City and, later that year, on October 17, the combined armies defeated British General Charles Cornwallis at Yorktown with the help of the French fleet commanded by Admiral Francois de Grasse.

This historic trail would celebrate the Franco-American alliance and the heroic effort undertaken by these two great nations to ensure American independence. Led by their courageous and brilliant leaders, Generals Washington and Rochambeau, these two armies changed the course of history with their victory over the British at Yorktown. This national historic trail would recognize this historic route and educate the public at large about the contributions of these men and their armies.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation, and I thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail Designation Act.

## NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

### COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Wednesday, February 28, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a markup of the Omnibus Budget for Senate Committees.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Howard Gantman at the Rules and Administration Committee on 224-6352.

### COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, the Chairman would like to inform the Members that the Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship will hold a hearing entitled "The President's Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Request for the Small Business Administration," on Wednesday, February 28, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in Russell 428A.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session, to the consideration of the nominations on the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table; that any statements be printed at the appropriate place in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

#### NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

##### IN THE COAST GUARD C-PN

PN106 COAST GUARD nomination of Thomas W. Denucci, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 9, 2007.

PN149 COAST GUARD nomination of Edward J. Mosely, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

PN150 COAST GUARD nomination of Teresa K. Peace, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 11, 2007.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

## APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 1928a-1928d, as amended, appoints the following Senator as chairman of the Senate delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly during the 110th Congress: the Honorable JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr., of Delaware.

The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the majority leader, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, as amended, appoints the following Senator as chairman of the Senate delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group during the 110th Congress: the Honorable PATRICK J. LEAHY of Vermont.

## MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 976

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand that H.R. 976 is at the desk and is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. STABENOW). The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 976) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, and for other purposes.